



GAIL FARBER
Director of Public Works

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

AVIATION COMMISSION

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY AVIATION COMMISSION

January 26, 2011, Meeting
Brackett Field Airport
1615 McKinley Avenue
La Verne, CA 91750-5837

IN ATTENDANCE

Chairman Angelo R. Cardono
Vice Chairman Clinton Simmons
Secretary Dennis C. Lord
Commissioner Peter Amundson
Commissioner Evelyn Jerome Alexander
Commissioner George G. Butts
Commissioner Penelope Cornwall
Commissioner Harvey Holloway

OFFICIALLY EXCUSED

Commissioner Aron A. Wolf
Commissioner Bobby E. Chase

COMMISSIONERS

ANGELO R. CARDONO
CHAIRMAN

CLINTON SIMMONS
VICE-CHAIRMAN

DENNIS C. LORD
SECRETARY

EVELYN JEROME ALEXANDER
MEMBER

PETER AMUNDSON
MEMBER

GEORGE G. BUTTS
MEMBER

BOBBY E. CHASE
MEMBER

PENELOPE CORNWALL
MEMBER

HARVEY HOLLOWAY
MEMBER

ARON A. WOLF
MEMBER

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS STAFF

Mr. Dennis Hunter, Deputy Director, Administration
Mr. Richard L. Smith, Chief, Aviation Division
Mr. George Gomez, Staff Assistant, Aviation Division

AMERICAN AIRPORTS - AIRPORT SERVICES DIVISION STAFF

Mr. Scott Wardle, Regional Director
Mr. Rafael Herrera, Manager, Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. Cyle Woodruff, Manager, Brackett Field Airport
Mr. Andrew Marino, Manager, Whiteman Airport
Mr. Chris Brooks, Manager, El Monte Airport
Mr. Steve Irving, Manager, General Wm. J. Fox Airfield

GUESTS

Mr. Don Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association
Mrs. Shellie Hagopian, Whiteman Airport Association
Mr. Sheldon Bresin, Brackett Field Airport Association
Mr. Jack Kenton, Compton/Woodley Airport
Mr. John Margs, Brackett Field Airport Association
Mr. Hai Clark, Brackett Field Airport Association

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Angelo Cardono called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Angelo Cardono led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION BY THE COMMISSION

A. November 23, 2010, Minutes

The Commission approved the minutes on a motion by Secretary Dennis Lord seconded by Commissioner Evelyn Jerome Alexander.

B. American Airports - Project Manager Report

Mr. Andrew Marino reported on Whiteman Airport events:

- **Management and Maintenance:**

- 1) Fuel filters were replaced on the airport's fuel trucks and at the fuel island.
- 2) Three fuel meters were replaced on the fuel island, which were tested and certified and are now working properly.
- 3) The two aircraft rescue and fire fighting (ARFF) vehicles were inspected and recertified.
- 4) The airport's wash rack was recently repainted.
- 5) The airport's gate intercom system is currently being updated. Also, new speed limit signs are being installed throughout the airport.
- 6) Two Airport Operations Coordinators were hired last month.
- 7) No changes regarding airport occupancy rates.
- 8) Fuel sales increased during January after a very rainy month of December.

- **Development and Activities:**

A new 33-foot high building is under construction across the street from the airport on Osborne Street. The County of Los Angeles (County) is communicating with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to determine what action to take to address the potential obstruction to navigable air space.

Commissioner Jerome Alexander asked Mr. Marino if the construction project is on hold while the County and the FAA investigate the matter. Mr. Marino stated the construction is proceeding.

Commissioner Jerome Alexander stated that American Airports Corporation (AAC) in conjunction with the County will continue to address this issue.

- **Meetings and Events:**

- 1) The 2010 Airport Association holiday event was held on Thursday, December 9, 2010.
- 2) The Airport Association meeting was held on January 20, 2011, where Mr. Don Hagopian announced that the Association has 450 active members in contrast to 370 one year earlier.
- 3) On January 8, 2011, the Aviation Explorers held a plane wash fundraiser event at the airport's wash rack.
- 4) On January 22, 2011, the San Fernando Valley 99s held their annual pancake breakfast event at the airport.

Mr. Chris Brooks reported on El Monte Airport events:

- **Management and Maintenance:**

- 1) An electrical switch was repaired on the south stadium light tower.
- 2) Eleven burned-out light bulbs were replaced including three bulbs on the 80-foot-high tower.
- 3) Operations staff continues to paint the corners of each hangar row with bright yellow for added visibility.
- 4) Operations staff has repaired the roofs of nine leaking hangars.
- 5) Motion-sensor light switches were installed in all hangar row restrooms.
- 6) The fill hose was replaced on the fuel Island.
- 7) The public use air compressor hose and its mounting bracket were replaced.
- 8) The sprinkler system on the south parking area was repaired.
- 9) In-house maintenance was performed to the airport's tractor and ARFF truck.

- **Projects:**

The two ficus trees and five fan palms near the AMDG hangars were removed as their roots were cracking the adjacent asphalt which was contributing to foreign object debris on the ramp.

- **Development and Activities:**

- 1) Two hangars were leased in October, and 19 hangars are currently available for rent.

- 2) The airport sold 11,865 gallons of Avgas and 1,447 gallons of Jet A in December 2010.
- 3) Three members of the staff received and passed their annual cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training.

- **Meetings and Events:**

- 1) The Pilot Fly-In and Static Aircraft Display events were held on November 28, 2010, and December 5, 2010.
- 2) On January 22 and 23, 2011, El Monte Airport hosted an Antique Custom and Hot Rod Display. This event will be scheduled for the fourth Saturday and Sunday of each month.

Mr. Rafael Herrera reported on Compton/Woodley Airport events:

- **Management and Maintenance:**

- 1) The runway indicator has been restored, painted, and placed at its original location.
- 2) The new drainage system at Compton/Woodley Airport handled the unprecedented heavy rains during December very well. The facility improvements have been noticed by airport tenants, and they have expressed their satisfaction to airport management.

- **Projects:**

- 1) The stairs by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) building were repaired.
- 2) The east perimeter access road was raised by approximately one foot.
- 3) The light fixture at the northwest gate was replaced, and a new photocell unit was installed.

- **Airport Developments:**

- 1) We continue to move tenants into Hangar Row T, and we are moving slowly closer to 50 percent occupancy.

- **Meetings and Events:**

- 1) On January 22, 2011, the Compton User Group held a meeting where members expressed their concerns to the airport manager. Airport management is addressing their needs one project at a time.

Secretary Lord asked Mr. Smith if there was an intention to remove the runway indicator after the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) installation. Mr. Smith stated that there is no intention to remove the runway indicator. This indicator's primary use is for aircraft noise abatement and safety.

Secretary Lord also asked Mr. Smith about the expectations of monitoring the runway indicator. Mr. Smith stated that monitoring the weather conditions and runways in use are operations issues. Airport

operations personnel are therefore obligated to monitor the weather and runway use on a regular basis.

Mr. Steve Irving reported on General Wm. J. Fox Airfield events:

- Operations staff has been working on weed control throughout the airport.
- Mini blinds were installed on the windows of the airport's terminal building.
- A television commercial was recently filmed in front of the terminal building.
- The daily Boeing flight out of the airport has been temporally suspended and is expected to begin again in the next couple of weeks.
- The International Flight Training Association has been utilizing the facility on a daily basis due to fog in the Central Valley where they were originally based.

Vice Chairman Simmons asked Mr. Irving if the International Flight Training Association is currently spending any money at the airport. Mr. Irving stated that they have been purchasing fuel on a regular basis and also patronize the airport's restaurant.

Mr. Cyle Woodruff reported on Brackett Field Airport events:

- **Management and Maintenance:**
 - 1) A new alternator was installed on the airport operations truck.
 - 2) Scrap metal that had accumulated on the airport property over the last few months has been removed.
 - 3) Operations staff has spent some time rewiring a few directional signs.
 - 4) Airport management is currently working with the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) to remove abandoned property by Eagle Helicopters and Aviation, Inc. This property has been in storage for over two years, and SEC is considering putting together a public auction.
- **Projects:**
 - 1) The asphalt was repaired at the north gate on Puddingstone Drive. A new safety loop was installed on the ground, and the gate is now working properly.
 - 2) Last year, the airport's SB 989 inspection revealed a small leak in the secondary containment system. Helium testing has taken place to pinpoint the leak, and the necessary repairs are pending.
- **Development and Activities:**
 - 1) The Argubright construction development on the southeast corner of the airport is near completion.
 - 2) Ballard Aviation, Inc. is officially closed. The business building is now available for lease.

- 3) The airport has 6,000 square feet of commercial space, 4,000 square feet of hangar space, and 2,000 square feet of office space currently available for rent.
 - 4) Fuel sales during November and December 2010 decreased slightly due to poor weather conditions.
- **Meetings and Events:**
 - 1) The Brackett Airport Association meeting is scheduled for the first Thursday of each month.
 - 2) The Brackett Airport Association Christmas dinner was held on December 2, 2010; door prizes were given away including four fuel vouchers totaling about \$200 donated by AAC.
 - 3) The San Gabriel Valley 99s will host a meeting at the airport on February 10, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.
 - 4) The Southern California Association of Governments' (SCAG) Aviation Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC) meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2010, in the pilot's lounge, at 10 a.m.
 - **Other Miscellaneous:**
 - 1) On December 20, 2010, a Phenom 100 jet aircraft veered off the end of Runway 26L and was stuck in the rain-soaked soil for three days.

C. County Contract Administrator's Report – Mr. Richard Smith

The Commission was provided with copies of the November and December 2010 expense and revenue report, and Mr. Smith offered to answer any questions.

Vice Chairman Simmons inquired about the increase of expenses under the Geotechnical Services Division during December. Mr. Smith stated that the reason expenditures increase unpredictably more at times than others is contingent with when the invoices are submitted to the Division for payment. Vice Chairman Simmons also inquired about expenses under the Design Division. Mr. Smith stated that the FAA allows the Aviation Division to design particular projects in-house if they make financial sense to do so.

Commissioner Cornwall asked Mr. Smith about where the revenue from filming activities at the airports goes. Mr. Smith stated that that revenue is reflected on the Aviation Enterprise Fund as miscellaneous revenue.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the Minimum Standards Subcommittee will be asked to review the County Counsel-approved Minimum Standards draft document for Whiteman Airport. The County anticipates presenting the Minimum Standards packet to the Board of Supervisors (Board) by May or June 2011.

Three Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) were renewed by several County Departments: Internal Services, Sheriff's and Fire. They will continue to lease their space at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield, and Brackett Field Airport.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that in the next couple of months, the Aviation Division will be seeking Board approval for three Capital Projects and one lease at Brackett Field and a lease at Whiteman Airport.

Mr. Smith elaborated on current Compton/Woodley Airport issues such as water runoff entering hangars, Court House lighting, Central Avenue gate, and loose gravel around hangar doors. He stated that all issues are being addressed.

Mr. Smith informed the Commission that the Aviation Division met with the FAA to discuss the 5-year Capital Improvement Program, which allows the Aviation Division to secure funding for projects in the current and coming years. The projects that will be funded this year are the Southside Slurry Seal at Brackett Field, the High-Speed Exit for Runway 6 at General Wm. J. Fox Airfield, and the Slurry Seal at the north ramp at Whiteman Airport.

The Airport Pavement Assessment project for all County-owned airports is progressing. The consultant has started its preliminary data collection at Compton/Woodley Airport, which included field surveying. After processing all data for Compton/Woodley Airport, the consultant will begin preliminary field surveying at El Monte Airport.

The AWOS towers at Whiteman and El Monte Airports are in place. However, the project has been delayed, pending procurement of licensing from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for the ultra high frequency radio frequency (UHF) to transmit data between the AWOS towers and the transmitters. The FAA and Aviation Division are currently working with the FCC to obtain the license and are also exploring alternatives.

Due to weather conditions, the application of a second coat of paint for the striping and runway marking has been delayed for the Brackett Field Airport Slurry Seal and Taxiway project.

Phase 4 of the Pavement Rehabilitation project at Compton/Woodley Airport is near completion. On March 1, 2011, the County of Los Angeles' Aviation Division will request Board approval to increase the total project cost in the amount of \$339,000 to fund additional costs for project grant management incurred to meet additional reporting requirements under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The additional costs of \$339,000 will be funded from the Aviation Capital Projects Fund. Total project cost as of January 2011 is \$7.8 million.

The Slurry Seal project at El Monte Airport is complete. The final coat of paint was applied, and the taxiway lines in between hangars were restriped for a total project cost of \$550,000.

The General Wm. J. Fox Master Plan Update is on schedule, and the Demand Capacity, Chapter 3, is being reviewed by Aviation Division and our consultant.

The Initial Study for the Mitigated Negative Declaration draft was completed for the Whiteman Airport Master Plan Update. Aviation Division is currently reviewing the draft and will provide comments.

Negotiations with our job order contract are taking place for the General Wm. J. Fox Airfield Runway Crack Filling project. The contractor was asked to determine pricing and a time table for the completion of the project.

The first contractor for the Whiteman Parking Ramp project was found to be nonresponsive after filing an appeal. The Department of Public Works' Construction Division has decided to reject all bids and re-advertise the project in late spring or early summer 2011.

D. Brackett Field Airport Additional Items

No additional items.

Other items

Chairman Angelo Cardono presented former Chairman George Butts with an award commemorating his first term as Chairman of the Aviation Commission and for his invaluable service since 2006.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – OPEN FORUM

Mr. Don Hagopian expressed his concern about the building being built 200 feet away from the end of Whiteman Airport's runway. In addition, he mentioned that the 2010 Whiteman Airport Association holiday party had over 100 attendees. Furthermore, Mr. Hagopian informed the Commission that the FAA is going to honor Mr. Ralph Truglio for his involvement with the Whiteman Airport Air Explorer Group and for teaching kids how to fly since 1953.

Mr. Jack Kenton expressed his concern about a possible conflict of information by having an AWOS and a runway indicator installed at Compton/Woodley Airport. He also mentioned some maintenance issues at N-Row restrooms, the airport's irrigation system, the temporary pedestrian gate at Alondra Boulevard, and a missing S-hook at his tiedown.

IV. NEXT AVIATION COMMISSION MEETING:

**Wednesday, February 23, 2011, at 10 a.m.
Compton/Woodley Airport
901 West Alondra Boulevard
Compton, CA 90220-3599
(310) 631-8140**

Chairman Cardono adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Lord, Secretary
Los Angeles County Aviation Commission

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